

# Signs

We are reviewing and updating our current District Plan – looking ahead to the next 10 to 15 years. The Kaipara District Plan is essentially the ‘rule book’, which is applied to manage development, activities and the environment within the district.

The District Plan influences the future shape and feel of our district, which is why it’s important for Kaipara communities to be informed and get involved. Its purpose is to protect our environment, historic locations and cultural tāonga for future generations, through sustainable management of our resources, while supporting our communities to develop and grow.

We’re seeking input on our initial draft ahead of the statutory process, scheduled to commence in mid-2023. This Draft District Plan does not have any ‘legal weight’ and the Operative District Plan must continue to be relied upon.

**Signs are important communication tools. They advertise goods and services, provide notice of forthcoming events, warn of hazards, identify premises, direct and control traffic, and pedestrians.**

Signs enable businesses, community groups and other organisations to support the social, economic, and cultural wellbeing of the district.

The number, size, location, and visual prominence of signs needs to be balanced against the potential impact they can have on health and safety and visual amenity.

## What are we proposing?

We have reviewed and updated the sign rule to reflect the zones proposed in the Draft District Plan and show what other rules might apply in certain situations. The draft Plan also controls the impact of signs on more sensitive areas.

Other minor changes have been required to ensure the signs chapter aligns with the National Planning Standards.

**Do I need a resource consent to place my sign along the road reserve to advertise a community event?**

No, however, you will need to obtain a permit from Council and Waka Kotahi/NZ Transport Agency (if the sign can be seen from a State Highway) before the sign is erected.

**Can I hang a sign off my gate or on my property to promote my home business?**

Generally, these types of signs are a permitted activity, providing it meets the relevant standards for size and other matters.

**What is the difference between the rules in the Draft District Plan, KDC bylaws and the State Highway Bylaw 2010?**

The District Plan rules apply only to permanent and temporary signs on private land.

Council’s bylaws manage and control signs located on Council-owned road reserves and public places.

The State Highways Bylaw 2010 is administered by Waka Kotahi/NZ Transport Agency and controls signs located on State Highways for roads 70km/h and above.

## Summary

- There are no significant changes to the sign rules from the current Operative Kaipara District Plan 2013.
- The Draft District Plan clarifies which rules apply to which signs between the District Plan, bylaws, and Waka Kotahi’s State Highways Bylaw.
- It is important to control signs in more sensitive areas to appropriate manage amenity values.

## How much is changing?



NOT MUCH

A LOT

**We’d love to hear your views:**

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